Guwahati High Court

7042. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of the Chief Justice of Guwahati High Court is presently lying vacant; if so, by when Government propose to fill the said post;

(b) the names of permanent as well as Circuit Benches of the said High Court alongwith the respective dates of their establishment and the details of last three years' figures of pendency of cases in each such permanent as well as Circuit Bench, Bench-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of last three years' figures of pendency of cases in the principal seat of the said High Court, year-wise; and

(d) the details of last three years' figures of pendency of cases in all the districts of the seven States within the jurisdiction of the said High Court,-district-wise, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The post of Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court has been filled up.

(b) and (c) The required information is given in the attached statement. (See below).

(d) Pendency of cases in District Courts of various States is not maintained by the Central Government.

Statement

S.No.	Name of principal seat and its Benches	Date from which Bench began functioning	Pending of cases during last 3 years		
			1991	1992	1993 (as on 30-9-93)
1	Guwahati (principal seat) .	10-02-1990	14788	14583	15059
2	Kohima (Permanent Bench) . .	10-02-1990	487	494	394
3	Shillong (circuit Bench) . . .	04-09-1974	629	564	628
4	Imphal (Permanent Bench) . .	21-011992	3259	3779	4407
5	Agartala (Permanent Bench) . .	16-05-1992	3713	3642	3302
6	Aizawl (Permenent Bench) . . .	05-07-90	151	230	249
			23027	23301	24039

Higt Court Benches a Dibrugarh Silchar and Itanagar

7043. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received fresh proposals to establish Benches of the Guwahati High Court at Dibrugarh, Silchar and Itanagar, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) the details of sanctioned strength as well as actually positioned strength of Judges in the said High Court alongwith the names of the respective judges stating the dates of their assumption of office as well as their retirement; and

(c) the details of steps being initiated by Government for expeditious filling of the vacant posts of Judges in the said High Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI N. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Representations have recently been received from the District Bar Association and the Advocates Bar Association of Silchar. District Bar Association and Advocates Bar Association of Karimganj and the District Bar Association of Hailakandi for establishing a High Court Bench in the Barak Valley of Assam. No proposal has been received from the Government of Assam, in consultation with the Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, in terms of Section 31(2) of the North Eastern Areas (Re-organisation) Act, 1971 for establishing a Bench of the High Court at any place away from its principal seat. Infact, the State Government intimated vide their letter dated 4.2.92 that the High Court had not found it suitable to establish a permanent Bench of the High Court at Dibrugarh.

It has been decided to set up a Bench of Gauhati High Court at Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) There are 13 Judges in position in the Gauhati High Court against the sanctioned strength of 17 Judges. The details of Judges in position are contained in the attached statement. (See below).

(c) Consultation with the State Constitutional authorities prescribed in Article 217(1) of the Constitution for appointment of Judges in the Gauhati High Court is on.

Statement

Gauhati High Court

Sl.No.	Name of the Judge	Date of appointment	Date of retirement
	S/Shri Justices—		
1	V.K. Khanna	02-07-1979	15-2-1997
2	V.D. Gyani	14-05-1984	30-7-1998
3	S.N. Phukan	11-10-1985	01-04-1999
4	J. Sangama	23-07-1986	01-03-1995
5	W.A. Shishak	02-01-1989	01-01-2000
6	H.K. Sema	24-05-1989	01-06-2005
7	Mrs. Meeru Sharma	24-05-1989	04-11-1999
8	D.N. Baruah	14-11-1991	01-03-1997
9	S.B. Roy	14-11-1991	28-01-2007
10	N.G. Das	14-11-1991	20-04-1998

11.	J.N. Sarma	07-05-1993	01-11-2002
12	A.K. Patnaik	13-01-94	03-06-2011
13	B.N. Singh "Neelam"	16-03-1994	10-02-2001

Sikkim High Court

7044. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many Judges from outside Sikkim have been appointed as Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court on being promoted from the post of Puisne Judges since merger of Sikkim, till date;

(b) whether the posts of Puisne Judges who had been promoted as Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court had been filled up by advocates practising in Sikkim and Judicial officers of Sikkim on reciprocal basic.

(c) whether it is a fact that not a single advocate practicing in Sikkim and Judicial Officers of Sikkim have been appointed as Judges of Sikkim High Court or any other High Court since July, 1976, till date; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that at present both the Chief Justice and the only Puisne Judge are from outside the State; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per the Government's Policy, Chief Justice of a High Court is appointed from outside the State. Accordingly, 5 Judges have been appointed from time to time as Chief Justices of Sikkim High Court from outside the State so far.

(b) and (c) One Advocate who had practised in Sikkim and had worked as Legal Adviser to the Government of Sikkim and as Advocate General of Sikkim, was appointed as a Judge of the Sikkim High Court in June, 1976 and is, at present, functioning as Chief Justice of an outside High Court. No Judicial Officer of Sikkim has so far been appointed as High Court Judge.

(d) At present, both the Chief Justice and the puisne Judge in the Sikkim High Court are from outside the State. It is for the Chief Jusitce of the High Court to assess the suitability of the members of the Bar and those of Judicial Service of the State and to recommend them in terms of Article 217(1) of the Constiuttion for appointment as High Court Judges. As and when, such persons are recommended by the State Constitutional authorities, they are considered in consultation with the Chief Justice of India for appointment as High Court Judges.

मतदाताओं के पहचान-पत्रों में एकरूपता

7045. **श्री गोविन्दराव आदिक** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चुनाव आयोग ने पहचान पत्र बनाने के लिये उसमें आकार, नाम, पिता का नाम, लिंग, पता तथा आयु आदि जैसे ब्यौरे सम्मिलित करने के लिये कतिपय दिशा-निर्देश जारी किये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार पहचान पत्रों में उपरोक्त बातों के अतिरिक्त और विवरण शामिल करने का विचार रखती है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि महाराष्ट्र, हरियाणा, पंजाब आदि जैसे